

AMBASSADORS

for

JESUS CHRIST

in

Guatemala, Central America

October 2010

Quarterly Newsletter

"Now then we are Ambassadors for Christ, as though God did beseech you by us; We pray you in Christ's stead, be ye reconciled to God." II Cor. 5:20

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Autumn greetings from Guatemala in the name of Jesus Christ. Hopefully this finds you welcoming cooler weather and beginning to think about the upcoming holidays. For us, this is the final month of our rainy season. The volcanic eruptions and the loud electrical storms remind us of God's power. Some reliable sources say this is the worst rainy season in over 40 years. It has brought much devastation to the country. The hurricanes and tropical storms have damaged a lot of the infrastructure of the "interior" of Guatemala (all the country outside of the capital city), starting out with Hurricane Agatha in May. Many bridges have gone down and rivers have overflowed or rerouted. There have been countless mudslides and accidents. On Sept. 4th, a public bus was buried by a landslide on a major highway, a highway we had recently been on. While rescue workers sought to save survivors, a second

cascade of rock and earth swept over the gathered crowd, turning many would-be rescuers into victims themselves. Apx. 45 people were killed. The President declared a National Emergency. Tropical Storm Matthew unleashed more water and damage the weekend of Sept. 25th. The one-room house of one of the ladies in the Bible Study is in a dangerous position located on a drop-off. She is caring for her failing husband and dealing with other family tragedies. Two



Our grandson, Bret Matthew Jr., w/ Consuelo and her failing husband



other ladies in the Bible Study had water coming through their tin roofs. As a result, they continually had sickness in their family. Our ministry bought them new tin sheets for their roofs. The ministry has helped meet many other needs in the community. Meanwhile, we added a carport to our home so we no longer get soaked running from the car to the front door. Lisa has spent many hours painting rooms throughout our home. In July, we discovered we had termites in our bookshelves. We had to empty the office (a major job within itself) and have the house fumigated by gas. It appeared to be the right time to paint the office, as well. Our home improvements help pay the rent. After 14 years in this home, it is time to do touch ups, as well as, additions. We are very grateful for the arrangement we have here. God has shown us favor.

In July, we had the privilege of hosting a wedding at our home. It was actually Filipe and Eufy's 25th Wedding Anniversary. They only had a civil wedding originally and Eufy's greatest desire was to have a private Christian wedding to renew their vows. Their pastor came to officiate the wedding and we were their witnesses. They have lived on the property here with us and worked in the ministry for nearly 7 years.



The happy couple is pictured here with their oldest daughter to their right. We were asked to pray over them and bless them (above). Lisa has trained Eufy in



the leadership of the Lady's Bible Study. In August, Augusto completed a year of employment with us. Of Mayan Indian roots pictured here with his wife, daughter and new son, he has been quite the blessing. His family lives in a village an hour and a



half from us. Augusto spends the week in San Lucas and goes home on the weekends. He is very grateful for the work and we are grateful for his help as a grounds keeper. He is the one God sent to take Lolo's place. Lolo passed away 3 years ago after being with us for over 4 years. On the anniversary of their employment, we spend a special time together and recognize them for a Character Quality they have demonstrated on a consistent basis. We gave Augusto a certificate praising him for the Character Quality of PUNCTUALITY (a rare quality demonstrated in a Latin country). We also enjoyed a visit by our good friend, Ligia Walker, from Az. She is Guatemalan and now a U.S. citizen. She comes every summer to visit her mother. Ligia shared a message in the Lady's Bible Study. She had fun hugging one of the precious new born babies. After so many baby boys recently added to our group, we took pleasure in blessing twin-girls born to one of the ladies the middle of September. The ladies generally visit the new mother's homes as a group, taking food, baby goods and prayers to the recovering mother.



In August, we were blessed with an eight day visit by Christopher and Christine Perry from Australia. Art lived with Chris and his family in Calif. for a time when he was growing up. Chris' mom, Art's 5th grade school teacher, was like a mom to us until she passed away last year. Chris and Art had memories to reminisce. We packed a lot into the short time they were here. We shared serious moments and yet laughed hysterically. On Friday, after we finished the bi-monthly meeting in our home with the General Managers of the Credit Unions, we jumped in the car with the Perrys and headed for the lake. The weather was good, but we saw the destruction from Tropical Storm



Agatha. We had at least a dozen detours off the new highway as a result of the damage. We did have a good laugh, though, when we were on a two-lane narrow road going down to the lake. The right lane was totally missing (went down the cliff), but it just happened to be right behind a sign that said, "STAY TO YOUR RIGHT". Sometimes you just have to do what you know is right and not what it says is right! Lisa's birthday was the day before their arrival. The day after their arrival, the ladies in the Bible Study



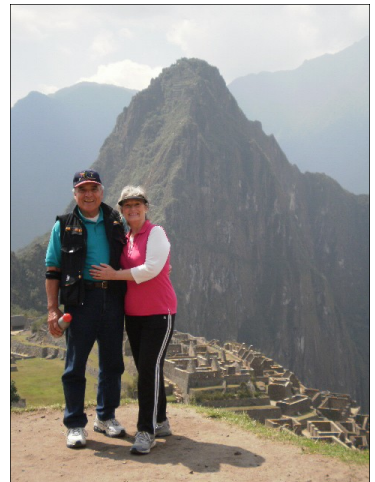
had beautifully adorned the Bible Study room for both a surprise Birthday Party for Lisa and a Welcome Party for the Perrys. To her surprise, they crowned Lisa downstairs and placed a beautiful bouquet of roses in her arms for her "grand entrance" to the "Upper Room". The love of the Lord flowed through them. It reminded Lisa of Revelation 2:10

"...be faithful even to the point of death and I will give you the crown of life." After some scrumptious food, Christopher Perry shared an interesting message about their lives in Australia. The ladies were fascinated and curious. The Perrys were blessed by their time with them. The Bible Study topic has been on the Character

Quality of HOSPITALITY. One of the ladies invited them to visit her family (6 boys and 1 girl) in their humble home made of tin with a dirt floor. God put it on the Perry's hearts to go to the "mercado" and buy them a basket full of food. Hens & chicks ran over our feet as we visited in the crude kitchen with an open fire. Maria Reyes sent us home with fresh eggs. After being with us in Guatemala, the Perrys had plans to travel to Peru. Unbeknownst to them, that was a trip we also had been planning for our 25th Wedding Anniversary. As a result, we enjoyed another day with Chris & Chris in Peru. During our two weeks there, we had the opportunity to learn about the Inca and Andean culture, savor new foods, dress in their typical attire, walk on man-made "floating islands" located on the highest navigable lake in the world and, of course, hike the famous Machu Picchu, one of the Seven Wonders of the World. God gave us the opportunity to share the Gospel message on occasion with our tour guides (pictured at bottom). We are thankful to some family members that made this unforgettable trip possible.



Lisa on Uros Islands, made of reed, Art & Lisa at Machu Picchu, Peru



- Please **pray** for Guatemala. Hundreds of thousands of people, many of which have been left homeless, have been greatly affected by the natural disasters. If you would like to make a special tax-deductible donation to help them, make it through RFH and let us know it is a relief donation. See below
- Please **pray** for Lisa's mom, "L.J." We returned from Peru to find out she had just fallen and was in the hospital. She has a compression fracture in her back. She is in California with Lisa's oldest sister, Deena. Please **pray** for her full recovery. She shares love and joy to those who know her. If the Lord prompts your heart to contribute, we do need to be prepared for Lisa to go be with her mom. Again, just let us know that is what the donation is for.

NOTE: Ripe For Harvest is a non-denominational mission-sending agency founded in 1979. To better serve their missionaries and donors, Ripe For Harvest has changed their address to Monument, Colorado. Please note the new address. For IRS purposes, please attach a sticky to the check with our name and/or #41. Electronic contributions can be made by going to www.RipeForHarvest.org and click on "donations," indicating it is for Camarena.

TAX DEDUCTION DONATIONS MAY BE SENT TO:

"RIPE FOR HARVEST"
P. O. Box 487
Monument, Co. 80132

Attach a note to your check for "Camarena #41"

"The harvest is plentiful but the workers are few. Ask the Lord of the harvest, therefore, to send out workers into his harvest field." (Luke 10:2)

